

A-BYRK  
EDITOR  
MEDICAL

**THE TWENTY-SIXTH**  
*ANNUAL REPORT*

ON THE  
**SANITARY CONDITION**  
OF THE  
**ABERGAVENNY**  
**RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT,**  
WITH  
**STATISTICAL TABLES,**

*PREPARED FOR THE RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY BY  
THEIR MEDICAL OFFICER.*

**ELMES V. STEELE,**

**L.R.C.P., & L.R.C.S., Edin.**

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—❧— **1898.** —❧—

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ABERGAVENNY;

M. MORGAN, STEAM PRINTER, "CHRONICLE" OFFICE, FROGMORE STREET

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TO THE

**ABERGAVENNY**

**Rural District Council.**

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour of placing before you the report for the Abergavenny Rural Sanitary District for 1898.

As before, I estimate the population of the District to be stationary since the last census, it was then 9,414; including the Joint Counties Asylum, the population for the year 1898 would be 10,566.

The area of the district in acres is 64,566.

The total number of births during the year was 208, being 8 more than in 1897, and 4 more than in 1896. There were 102 male and 106 female births.

The birth-rate for the district (excluding the Joint Counties Asylum) is 21·7 per thousand.

The number of deaths registered for the whole district was 209.

The number of deaths (excluding those occurring in the district, but not belonging to it, viz., 104; but including those occurring outside the district, but belonging to it., 6) were 111, being 7 less than 1897, and 34 less than in 1896.

The death-rate for the district (excluding the Joint Counties Asylum) was 11·7.

The death-rate of infant mortality per thousand registered births was 96·7

The ages at which deaths occurred were: Under one year, 20; one and under five, 4; five and under fifteen, 2; fifteen and under twenty-five, 7; twenty-five and under sixty-five, 92; sixty-five and upwards, 84.

#### ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

One death occurred from membranous croup, one from whooping-cough, and one from diarrhoea. All under five years of age. The death-rate from zymotic diseases being 0.31. No cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

#### SCARLATINA.

Seven cases of this disease were reported to me during the year, they were scattered over the district, and undoubtedly were imported, excepting where the second case occurred in the same house. There was nothing in the shape of an epidemic.

#### DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

Nine cases of diphtheria and two of membranous croup were notified during the year. Five of the cases of diphtheria and the two cases of membranous croup occurred in the Grosmont district, and two cases of diphtheria were reported from Llanfoist.

#### WHOOPING-COUGH.

One death occurred from whooping-cough and there was a considerable epidemic in Llanwenarth Citra during the summer months, necessitating the closing of the school for a period.

#### PHTHISIS.

Excluding the Joint Counties Asylum, seven deaths were reported during the year from phthisis.

#### PUERPERAL FEVER.

One case was reported during the year.

#### ERYSIPELAS.

One case of erysipelas was reported.

#### INFLUENZA.

Two deaths were notified as due to this cause alone and a few others as due to influenza, complicated with diseases of the chest, one being reported as occurring in a child of three months old.

#### INJURIES.

One death occurred from injury.

## WATER SUPPLY.

I am sorry to say that the various water schemes progress but slowly. The Llanvihangel Crucorney water supply is not yet completed, although it has been in hand for so long a time. I hope, however, that it will be completed this summer. The water supply for Llanwenarth Ultra has not been even commenced, and although undoubtedly there are obstacles to be overcome, there is no such insuperable difficulty as to interfere with its completion. Operations have been commenced for a partial supply of water to the Mardy, and, although I should have much rather seen a more comprehensive scheme, we, I suppose, must be thankful for small mercies. I have no doubt, gentlemen, that you will recollect the controversy that arose out of the water supply for Grosmont. I do not wish to re-open it. There have been complaints for several summers of a lamentable lack of water there, the water drawn from wells in the village having nearly given out, some of the wells being dry for a considerable period, causing great inconvenience. I suggested, as no doubt you will remember, that water should be brought from the outside of the village, and by that means, not only getting a good supply as regards quantity, but also doing away with the danger that may arise when water is obtained from wells in the immediate vicinity of habitations. The expense that might be caused by the scheme was naturally feared by many of the ratepayers, but I am glad to say that any opposition there was at first has given way, and we may look forward with certainty to a proper supply being obtained.

An improved supply for Llanvetherine is being attended to, and will be completed by the summer.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The recent changes that have taken place of late years in our knowledge of the cause and treatment of tuberculosis, has led already, and will in future years lead to a still more careful supervision of dairies and cow-sheds, and although in this neighbourhood I suspect that there is considerably less danger from tuberculosis than there is in many other places, partly from climatic conditions, the breed of cattle, and other reasons, there is undoubtedly great room for improvement, and I hope, gentlemen, that you will give me what support you can in improving the conditions of milk supply.

## SCHOOLS.

The schools generally are in fair conditions as regards sanitation, but in some cases there are improvements required, which I hope will be remedied in the course of the year. The school at Llanvihangel Crucorney was closed on account of an epidemic of measles and influenza. The school at Llanellen was closed for a short time on account of some cases of scarlatina. The school at Llanwenarth Citra was closed on account of an epidemic of whooping cough. The school at Cwmyoy Lower was closed on account of an epidemic of measles.

There have been several complaints of overcrowding in the district, which we shall have to attend to, and there are several cottages that are by no means in a proper sanitary condition, and if the owners do not take proper measures for remedying the condition I shall have to ask you to take action against them. Several nuisances have been dealt with by your inspector, with, I hope, a distinct improvement in the sanitation of the district.



## THE RAINFALL IN 1898.

Dr. Glendinning has again kindly supplied me with the statistics of the rainfall for our district during the past year, which you will see has been a very dry one, 27·99 inches of rainfall, against 42·10 for 1897. There being 153 days during which ·01 fell last year, as against 170 in 1897.

AT LARCHFIELD, ABERGAVENNY, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH.

Rain Gauge { Diameter of Funnel, 5 inches.  
 { Height { Above Ground, 1 foot.  
 { of Top { Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

Month.	Total Depth	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		Number of Days on which ·01 or more fell.
	Inches.	Depth.	Date.	
January .....	·21	·09	1st	4
February .....	1·29	·35	25th	15
March .....	·78	·47	6th	10
April .....	2·86	·58	11th	11
May .....	4·31	·75	23rd	23
June .....	1·41	·33	5th	11
July .....	·43	·20	22nd	5
August .....	2·19	·86	18th	14
September .....	1·07	·86	29th	7
October.....	5·71	1·53	17th	19
November .....	3·33	1·26	23rd	17
December .....	4·40	1·30	26th	17
Total.....	27·99			153

E. Y. STEELE.

1st February, 1899.







(B) Table of **Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Diseases**, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1898, in the Rural Sanitary District of Abergavenny, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities	Population of all Ages.			Registered Births	Aged under 5 or over 5	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.											Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.																												
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1898				Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Fever					Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Fever					Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas								
										Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal												Cholera	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria								Membranous Croup	Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11								
Abergavenny (Rural) ..	1396	1396	10	Under 5 5 upwards	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Betws Newydd ..	102	102	3	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Bryngwyn ..	252	252	4	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Bwlch Trewyn ..	108	108	nil	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Cwmtyoy ..	326	326	13	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Fwddog ..	79	79	2	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanarth and Clytha ..	563	563	14	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanthwyllyd ..	307	307	6	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanthwyllyd ..	133	133	2	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llandello Pertholey ..	1119	1119	26	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanellen ..	311	311	10	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanfoist (Rural) ..	443	443	17	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llangattock Lingod ..	181	181	1	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llangattock-nigh-Usk ..	265	265	2	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanover (Rural) ..	397	397	10	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llansaintfræd ..	20	20	nil	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanvair Kilgeddin ..	290	290	4	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanvayle ..	311	311	2	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanvetherine ..	203	203	6	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanvihangel Orucorney ..	508	508	13	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanvihangel-juxta-Usk ..	105	105	4	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanwenarth Citra ..	236	236	4	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Llanwenarth Ultra ..	1058	1068	37	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Old Castle ..	57	57	1	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Grosmont and Llangua ..	642	642	15	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
Joint Counties Asylum ..	931	1152	3	Under 5 5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							
TOTALS ..	9414	10666	208	Under 5 5 upwards	..	7	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..							

"The Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District since 1890.  
The Isolation Hospital is the Abergavenny Rural and Urban Sanatorium, situated at Llanfoist, in the Rural District.

